

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

September 11, 1978

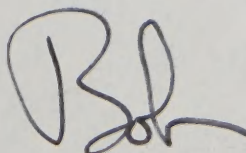
Dear Eric,

1723
Enclosed the return of the photograph of the Wood's Farthing in silver. I checked out the variety and it is one of the varieties known to be struck in silver. I have it classified as 2.5b¹-K.8e². It also happens to one of the hoard specimens from where i probably got my own. The story goes like this.

81723
There was a tube ~~of coins~~ made of silver with a silver 1723 Wood's Halfpenny at either end. The tube was filled with 12 farthings struck in silver and 12 struck in copper, all of prooflike surface. This was kept by the descendants of William Wood until it was sold by them to the A.H. Baldwin's. I got the story from ~~them~~ ^{MR. BALDWIN}, I have photos of the tube, ^I ~~and~~ not only purchased one of the farthings in silver from them, but two of them. The last two I might add. So, there are at least 12 of this variety known in silver, and all are of proof quality.

From the photograph I see no indication of this being a forgery but it is only a photograph. Other than that, it was pleasant having talked with you after so long, and I trust the leg is doing fine as well as your health.

Very sincerely,



Bob Vlack

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

September 18, 1978

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Street
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis Mo. 63178

Dear Eric,

Enclosed find the Silver Wood's Farthing, 2.5b1-K.8e2. There is no specimen known to me of this combination struck in copper. The obverse die has been used with 2 other combinations in copper.

2.5b1-I.9g1

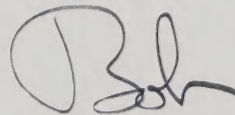
2.5b1-M.19f1

The reverse die was used with one combination known to me thus far, ALSO COPPER

1.6a1-K.8e2

I trust this will be of some help to you.

Very sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

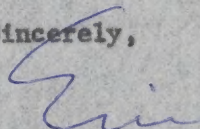
September 26, 1978

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

Thank you for sending your silver Woods farthing. I'll mail it back in due course but wanted you to know how much I appreciate the loan of it. Its surfaces have mint glow while the piece I am studying is uncirculated and clean but without any surface glow and is a centrifugal cast in my opinion.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah

1723 Woods Farthing in Silver.
Wt. 4.7282 grams (72.9 grains).
Sp. Gr. 10.33.
Bowers and Ruddy 8/21/78 Sale, Lot #16 withdrawn.

Submitted piece appears strong and uncirculated. It is silver and of normal weight. It has no toning and is very clean. It has no proof like or reflecting surface. Its edge is generally smooth with some light scratches running around part of it (none being vertical or near vertical). There are slightly pitted areas on the edge. There is a heavy obverse die break from the point of the bust out to the edge as on all obverses of this die variety. The left lower leg of X is weak. There are three almost circular dents in the cheek, the largest of which is near the hair on the level of the philtrum. There is a vertical line depression or scratch on the lower left part of the neck directly under the dip of a large hair wave. There is a diagonal line dent from the perimeter of the obverse across the beading aimed at the left top point of D.

This variety is 2.5b1-K8e2 in the die classification of Bob Vlack (not yet published). There were 12 silver farthings in a container handed down by the Woods family and I have compared one with the submitted piece. There was one in the May 26, 1976 Stack Sale (#35). There is another die variety in silver which I have also examined, but not from the Woods container.

The silver in the submitted piece measures too pure as the specific gravity of another piece is only 10.25. All Woods pieces in silver of which I am aware have a proof-like surface unless worn and the submitted piece has no lustre even though it shows no wear. The sale catalog described it as whizzed.

There is a small raised dot in the field to the right of the middle bar of E of DEI which is not on genuine pieces. There are two small raised dots in the field to the right of the U (one being opposite the middle and the other being above the top of the U) and these are not found on genuine pieces. These dots appear to be gas bubbles from casting.

This piece was submitted to Bowers and Ruddy for sale at auction along with other forgeries and stated to be genuine by the consignor who was not the owner. The prior ownership is not disclosed at this time.

The submitted piece in our opinion is one of the most dangerous forgeries we have examined. If made recently it violates the Hobby Protection Act. It would be unwise for Bowers and Ruddy to return it without a full explanation of its provenance being submitted in writing and an investigation made to confirm its source. It should then be deposited with ANA or some other organization for study and safekeeping.

Eric P. Newman

for

September, 1978

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

Not final

1723 Woods Farthing in Silver.
Wt. 4.7282 grams (72.9 grains).
Sp. Gr. 10.33.
Bowers and Ruddy 8/21/78 Sale, Lot #16 withdrawn.

Submitted piece appears strong and uncirculated. It is silver and of normal weight. It has no toning and is very clean. It has no proof like or reflecting surface. Its edge is generally smooth with some light scratches running around part of it (none being vertical or near vertical). There are slightly pitted areas on the edge. There is a heavy obverse die break from the point of the bust out to the edge as on all obverses of this die variety. The left lower leg of X is weak. There are three almost circular dents in the cheek, the largest of which is near the hair on the level of the philtrum. There is a vertical line depression or scratch on the lower left part of the neck directly under the dip of a large hair wave. There is a diagonal line dent from the perimeter of the obverse across the beading aimed at the left top point of D.

This variety is 2.5b1-K8e2 in the die classification of Bob Vlack (not yet published). There were 12 silver farthings in a container handed down by the Woods family and I have compared one with the submitted piece. There was one in the May 26, 1976 Stack Sale (#35). There is another die variety in silver which I have also examined.

The silver in the submitted piece measures too pure as the specific gravity of another piece is only 10.25. All Woods pieces in silver of which I am aware have a proof-like surface unless worn and the submitted piece has no lustre even though it shows no wear.

There is a small raised dot in the field to the right of the middle bar of E of DEI which is not on genuine pieces. There are two small raised dots in the field to the right of the U (one being opposite the middle and the other being above the top of the U) and these are not found on genuine pieces. These dots appear to be gas bubbles from casting.

This piece was submitted to Bowers and Ruddy for sale at auction along with other forgeries and stated to be genuine by the consignor who was not the owner. The prior ownership is not disclosed at this time.

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Eric P. Newman

for

in GEORGIUS

EF-2249, Lot #16, 1723 Woods Farthing ($\frac{1}{16}$ d) Silver. The color and ~~surface~~ surface texture are unnatural. The fields show minute porosity. There are several casting bubbles, notably: within the 1st G; above the left and right top **S**erifs of I_A; above the center of U; opposite the right side of U about two thirds up; opposite the central crossbar of E of DEI; opposite the top right **S**erif of G of GRATIA; above bottom of left **S**erif of upright of T of GRATIA. On the reverse, what appears to be a bubble under the outstretched arm, opposite the sleeve, is actually in the die, and appears on known genuines. Depressions in the apex of A and the upright of 'l' in date are imperfections in casting. The edge is too flat and also shows imperfections in casting. The edge on originals is slightly rounded.

Picker

/EF-2249, Lot #16, 1723 Woods Farthing ($\frac{1}{4}$), SILVER. The color and surface texture are unnatural. The fields show minute porosity. There are several casting bubbles, notably: within the 1st G; above the ~~the~~ left and right top serifs of I in Georgius; above the center of U; opposite the right side of U about two thirds up; opposite the central crossbar of E of DEI; opposite the top right serif of G of Gratia; above bottom of left serif of upright of T of GRATIA. On the reverse, what appears to be a bubble under the outstretched arm, opposite the sleeve, is actually in the die, and appears on known genuines. Depressions in the apex of A and the upright of 'l' in date are imperfections in casting. The edge is too flat and also shows imperfections in casting. The edge on originals is slightly rounded.

WEAK lower left on X
curvature on cheek opposite philtre
very near hair on level of ~~philtre~~

philtre
lower left part of
Vertical ~~line~~ depression on neck under
dip of ~~large~~ hair wave

EF 2249
~~0016~~

4.7282 grams
73 grains

10.319074 sp 82

(Draft #1
not final)

Both obv + Rev dies of Silver Woods
farthing of 1723 differ from my
silver farthing. This has a die
break from point of bust on obv.

It is cleaned and very strong
Edge is smoothed ^{as if by polishing} by ~~turning~~ ^{rather} ~~by being turned~~

~~I suspect it is a imade from
a copper uncirculated piece~~

~~I am checking on the dies~~
now.

edge of Branigan piece turned
surfaces fuzzy on Branigan
EPN piece looks like proof

As Two raised
~~the raised~~
dots of the ~~to~~
right of U, one at the
bar of E of DEI. not on genuine piece
Raised Dot to right of center cross

Draft #2
not final

ANACS

EF-2249

- ~~1723~~ Silver Woods 2d of 1723 Woods Farthing in Silver

Wt. 4.7282 grams (72.9 grains), Sp. gr. 10.33

Bowers & Ruddy #16 of 8/21/78 Sale which lot was withdrawn before sale.

~~It is sharp and uncirculated.~~ ^{It appears strong and} It is silver and of normal weight. ^{is very clean.} It has no toning and looks as though it has been cleaned. It has no proof like surface. ~~It appears to have been lightly filed or polished by a light running turning.~~

Its edge is generally smooth but it has some scratches around parts of the edge and none are vertical ^{or almost vertical} to the edge. There are ^{slightly} pitted areas on the edge. There is a heavy die break from the point of bust out to the edge. The ^{lower} left leg of the X is weak. There are three dents in the cheek, ^{as on all obverses of this variety.}

^{I have compared examined one of these. there was another in the May 1976 Stacks Sale} ^{as #35} This variety is 2.5 b¹-K8e² in the classification work which Bob Vlack did many years ago, but which has ^{not been} published. There were 12 silver farthings of this variety in a container handed down by the Woods family and ^{disbursed}. There is another variety of Woods farthing in Silver dated 1723 ^{which I have also examined.} ^{these large have}

The silver is extremely pure as the specific gravity of a comparison piece ~~from other dies~~ is only 10.25.

All Woods farthings in silver of which I am aware have a proof-like surface and the submitted piece ^{has no lustre} does not, even though it shows no wear.

The submitted piece is a very dangerous forgery in my opinion. Its owner had other dangerous forgeries with it. It should not be returned by Bowers & Ruddy Galleries to the consignor. It apparently violates the Hobby Protection Act.

There ^{small} is a raised dot ~~in~~ in the field to the right of the central bar of E of DEI which is not found on genuine pieces. There are two small raised dots in the field to the right of U (one being opposite the middle and one being above the ~~top~~ level of the top of U) and these are not found on genuine pieces. These dots appear to be ~~cast~~ ^{gas} bubbles from casting.

The submitted piece has a ~~diagonal~~ line dent from the ~~top~~ perimeter of the obverse across the edge beading aimed at the left top corner of D. ~~DDC~~

Plain paper

~~Sept 1978 opened~~

ANACS # EF 2249

1723 Woods Farthing in Silver.

Wt. 4.7282 grams (72.9 grains)

Sp. gr. 10.33

Bowers + Ruddy 8/21/78 Sale, ^{Lot #16} withdrawn

Submitted ~~piece~~ appears strong and uncirculated. It is silver and of normal weight. It has no toning and is ~~the~~ very clean. It has no proof like or reflecting surface. Its edge is generally smooth with some light scratches running around part of it (none being vertical or near vertical). There are slightly pitted areas on the edge. There is a heavy obverse die break from the point of the bust out to the edge as on all obverses of this die variety. ^{the left lower eye of X is weak.} There are three almost circular dents in the cheek, the largest of which is near the hair on the level of the philtrum. There is a vertical line depression or scratch on the lower left part of the neck directly under the dip of a large hair wave. There is a diagonal line dent from the ~~the~~ perimeter of the obverse across the ~~the~~ beading aimed at the left top point of D.

This variety is $2.5 b^1 - K8 e^2$ in the die classification of Bob Vlack (not yet published). There were 12 silver farthings in a container handed down ~~by~~ by the Woods family and I have compared one with the submitted piece. There was one in the May 26, 1976 Stack Sale (#35). There is another die variety in silver which I have also examined.

The silver in the submitted piece is extremely pure as the specific gravity of ^a comparison piece is 10.25. All Woods pieces in silver of which I am aware have a proof-like surface unless worn and the submitted piece has no luster even though it shows no wear.

There is a small raised dot in the field to the right of the ~~center~~ middle bar of E of DEI which is not on genuine pieces. There are ^{small} two raised dots in the field to the right of the U (one being opposite the middle and the other being above the top of the U) and these are not found on genuine pieces. These dots appear to be ~~gas~~ bubbles from casting.

This piece was submitted to Bowers + Ruddy for Sale at auction along with other forgeries and ~~stated to be genuine~~ ~~by the consignor who was not the owner.~~ ~~The submitted piece prior ownership is not disclosed at this time.~~

The submitted piece in our opinion is one of the most dangerous forgeries ^{we} have examined. It ^{violates} the Bobby Protection Act. ~~It would be unwise to return it to the consignor without a full explanation of its provenance being submitted in writing and an investigation made to confirm its source. It should then be deposited with ANA or some other organization for study and safekeeping.~~

Sept 1978

Eric P. Newman
for

Numismatic Society

EF 2249 Silver words $\frac{1}{4}$ d of 1723.

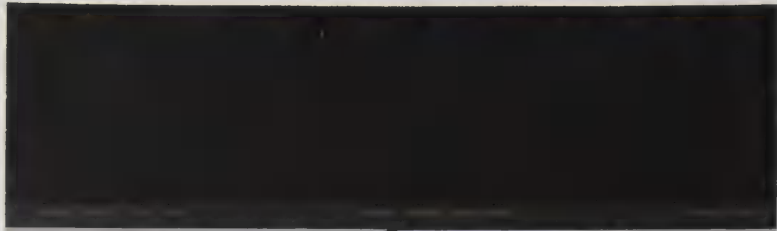
Wt. 4.7288 grams (72.9 grains) Sp. gr. 10.33
Bowers + Ruddy #16 of 8/21/78 sale which lot
was withdrawn before sale.

It is sharp and uncirculated. It is silver ^{looks as though it} and of normal weight. It ~~has~~ ^{has no toning and has been} cleaned. It has no proof like surface. ^{generally} but ~~it~~ ^{it} has some scratches around parts of its edge is smooth. ~~It has~~ ^{and none are vertical to the edge.} running ~~around parts of~~ the edge. There are pitted areas on the edge. ~~It is~~ ^{There is a heavy die break from the} point of bust ^{out} to the edge. The left leg of the X is weak. There are three dents in the cheek.

This variety is 2.5 b¹-K8c² in the ^{classification} work which Bob Vlach did many years ago but which has not been published. ~~He found silver farthings only made from~~ ^{There were 12 silver farthings of this} ~~die classified as~~ ^{variety in a container handed down by the Woods family and disbursed.} ~~There is another variety~~ ^{of Woods farthings in silver dated 1723.} The silver is ~~as~~ ^{from other dies} as the specific gravity of a comparison piece is only 10.25.

All Woods farthings in silver ~~of~~ ^{of} which I am aware ~~are~~ ^{are} have a proof like surface and ~~the~~ ^{shows} the submitted piece does not even though it ~~has~~ ^{no} wear.

The submitted piece is a ^{very dangerous} forgery in my opinion. Its ~~owner~~ ^{owner} had other dangerous forgeries with it. It should not be returned by ^{to the consignee} ~~it~~ ^{It} apparently violates ~~the~~ ^{the} Hobby Protection Act.



This is in Silver. Woods 1/4¢
It was lot # 16 on the Aug 21, 1978
Bowers & Ruddy Sale and withdrawn

Please advise
exists in silver.
think it is
Eric

if this variety
I don't
genuine.

EF-2249

2.56 - K.8-2



B + R lot 16

E1 = - 2249



B & R lot #16

EF-2249



UNIT 10
A 10 10
Full
10/10/10

B + R Lot # 16
FF - 2249



1723 Hibernia Farthing, "Dei Gratia", Silver, Counterfeit

EF-2249



Silver

B&R 8/21/78 #16

EF-2249



EF-2249

Silver

13+R 8/21/78 #16



ENTERED BY
ANA
CERTIFICATE
OF AUTHORITY
FOR THE
RECORDS OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BAR Lot 16

EF-2049



B&R lot #16

EF-2249



1723 Hibernia Farthing, "Dei Gratia", Silver Counterfeit

EF-2249



1723 Hibernia Farthing, "Dei Gratia", Silver, Counterfeit

~~17~~ 2 249

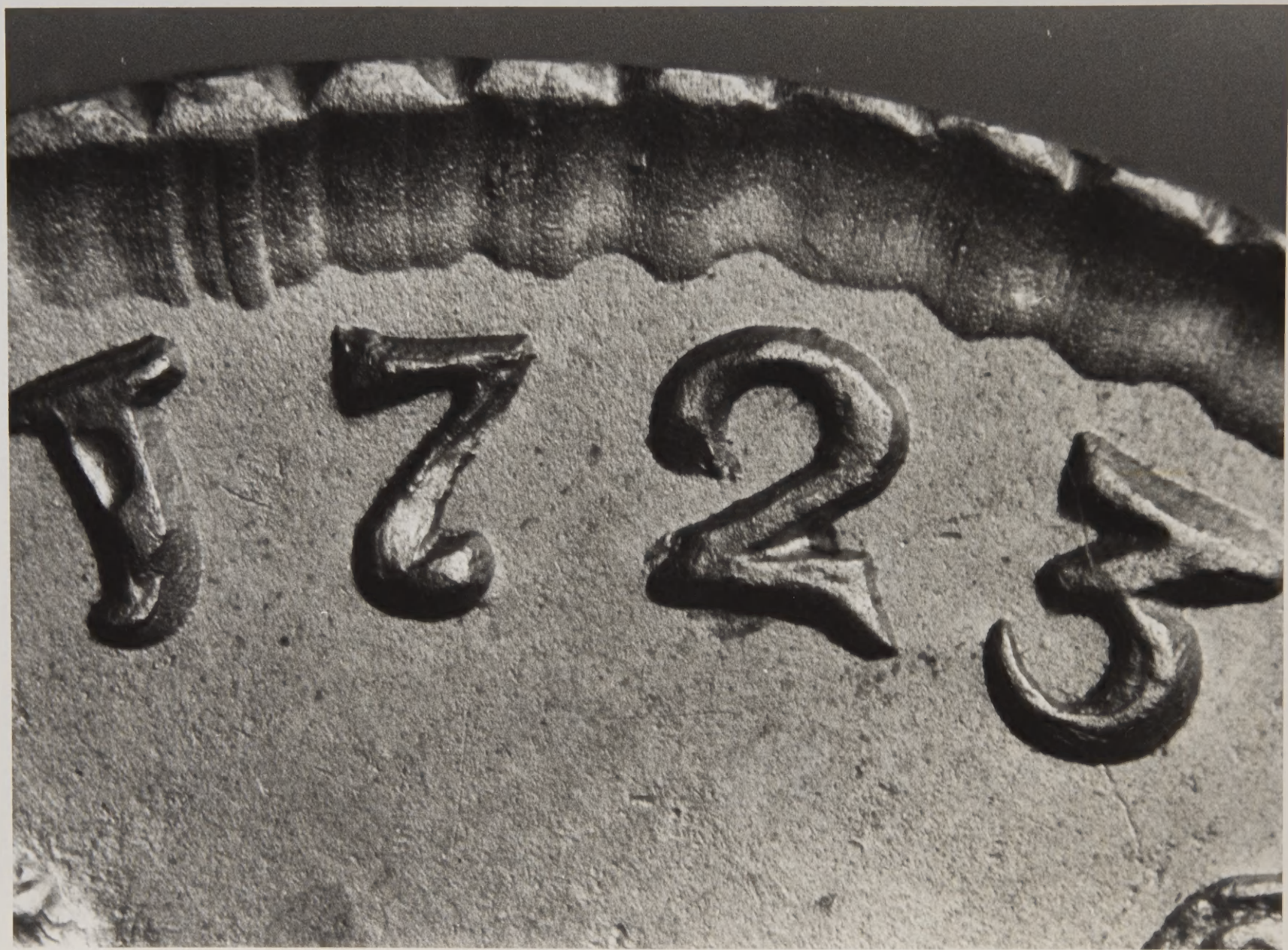
1-23-79-A (21)



1723 Hibernia Farthing; "Dei Gratia", Silver, Counterfeit

EF 2249

1-23-79-A (22)



1723 Hibernia Farthing, "Dei Gratia", Silver, Counterfeit

EF 2249

1-23-79-A (20)